



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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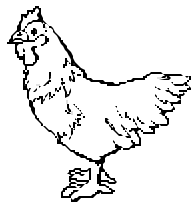
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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Majority prices for next week were trending lower in the West, unchanged to lower elsewhere. Trade sentiment was about steady to weak. Demand entering the holiday weekend improved slightly in spot areas, but remained fair at best due to interest for more traditional meat items. Food service was fair to moderate. Supplies were at least sufficient for trade needs with hopes that plant closures today and/or Monday will help balance availability. In the parts structure, trading was seasonally light and selective. Supplies of all items were adequate to ample and easy to locate if needed. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 04/01/02-04/06/02 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	42.00-45.00	42.00-65.00	44.61	23
Los Angeles	67.00			
New York	44.00-46.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	58.00-61.00	39.00-63.00	60.29	75

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 62.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
492	59.50-64.50	62.29
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	(CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	180.50	773
BREASTS - B/S	131.00	3,173
BREASTS - WHOLE	68.00	1,033
THIGH MEAT - B/S	84.00	530
LEG QUARTERS	19.50	5,806
WINGS	68.50	1,878

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

MIDWEST Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading were unchanged from last Monday's final. The trade sentiment for whole broiler/fryers was steady to weak. Offerings of whole fryers and WOG's continued to satisfy the light buyer needs. Movement into retail channels remained on the quiet side, slow to fair at best. Food service demand was as expected, light to moderate with some increased movement into fast food outlets. Floor stocks were in balance to instances long. Weights were desirable. Trading on parts items was light for the mostly fully adequate supplies. Whole and split breasts were in the best balance. The market tone was unsettled on breast items and wings and barely steady to weak on dark meat items.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was no better than steady. Demand entering the holiday weekend was seasonally light with hopes that post-holiday interest will increase as first of the month approaches. Supplies were at least sufficient for limited needs; however, with a number of plants down today and/or Monday, availability may become better balanced. In the parts structure, trading was mixed, mostly light, with supplies of all items readily available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN Preliminary majority prices were 1 cent lower in all reported areas. Offerings were fully adequate overall. Some processors worked reduced holiday slaughter schedules. Buying interest was fair. Demand was moderate overall best for parts as weekend needs centered on holiday items. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers. Ads noted: Southern California - whole body 99, whole cut-up 119, boneless breast 167-198, boneless breast marinated 299, boneless leg meat 138, split breast 139-199, IQF 4# party wings 698, thigh 89-99, drumstick 89-99, leg quarters 10# bag 190-490, roaster 98-129; Northern California - roaster 129, boneless breast 269, leg quarter 10# bag 290; Arizona - roaster 99-149, drumstick 89-119, thigh 89-119, leg quarter 79-99, leg quarter 10# bag 390, boneless breast 199-419; Colorado - whole body 79-89, whole cut-up 99, thigh 79, drumstick 79, Cornish hens 169.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was seasonally light and unaggressive as dealers continued to be cautious and selective entering holiday weekend. Offerings of all sizes were fully adequate. Movement into retail and distributive channels was seasonally slow. The market tone was about steady. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were ample and boneless-skinless breasts were at least adequate. The balance of items was more than sufficient for current needs.

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally light and unaggressive with several dealers absent from the marketplace in observance of the religious holiday. Seller offerings were reduced due to plant closings, but remained fully sufficient in handling buyer needs. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processing schedules were very light. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 47 to 61 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady. In the parts complex, all items were adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	41-60
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	49.06
NO. OF BOXES	9,882

CUMULATIVE	03/25/02-03/29/02	49.38
	03/26/01-03/30/01	55.49
NO. OF BOXES	03/25/02-03/29/02	42,928
	03/26/01-03/30/01	56,965

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

MARCH 28, 2002

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MARCH 29, 2002

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS			WTD AVG	POUNDS			WTD AVG	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY		(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY		(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	683	113.00-188.00	118-125	121.37	837	115.00-188.00	118-123	121.07	3,824	121.05
TENDERLOINS	60	135.00-195.00	-	163.93	150	125.00-195.00	127-135	143.91	516	150.31
BREAST - LINE RUN	107	62.00-68.00	63-65	65.46	113	62.00-68.00	64-67	65.54	534	65.90
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				420	60.75
LEGS	88	25.00-37.00	25-26	26.09	44	25.00-36.00	26-27	27.25	396	26.22
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	351	13.00-18.00	13-14	13.44	69	13.25-18.00	14-15	15.25	1,553	13.56
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,417	15.00-25.50	17-19	18.31	1,420	15.50-22.00	17-19	17.90	7,085	18.36
WINGS (WHOLE)	297	54.00-71.00	68-69	68.37	246	66.00-71.00	-	70.07	1,434	69.48
WINGS (CUT)	327	72.00-84.00	76-78	77.93	352	76.00-84.00	77-79	78.42	1,823	78.43
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				69	36.00-50.00	-	37.83	333	43.15
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				29	36.00-47.00	-	39.41	133	39.34
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				82	83.40

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
34.00 - 40.00	35.97	35.15 - 39.50	37.13	37.25

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity improved slightly entering the holiday weekend, however business was light to no better than fair as dealers attempted to keep floorstocks as closely balanced as possible. Offerings of bone-in breasts were ample; boneless skinless breasts were at least adequate. Leg items were fully adequate to ample. Wings were readily available. Movement through retail and distributive channels was seasonally slow. The market tone was barely steady.

ICE PKD BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT & TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND.

MARCH 29, 2002

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG**	CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG**	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*				TRADING*				WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	120	123.81	344,920		120	119.44	185,880	122.12	1,416,310	
TENDERLOINS	125-130	134.55	46,200		125-130	135.56	44,080	133.10	286,780	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	59-60	62.80	255,080		59-60	61.87	173,480	64.97	855,240	
BREAST - LINE RUN	59	58.90	120,600		59	56.71	126,000	58.57	708,480	
LEGS	32-33	36.22	118,920		32-33	40.70	89,040	36.89	582,200	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	18.96	353,960		17-18	19.07	203,108	18.61	1,484,056	
DRUMSTICKS	32-33	32.56	82,030		32-33	32.75	57,930	34.45	384,820	
THIGHS	25-26	33.18	55,300		25-26	26.19	53,250	30.90	253,060	
B/S THIGHS	81-82	81.47	51,480		81-82	81.04	20,640	79.98	272,040	
WINGS (WHOLE)	64-65	66.55	224,080		62-63	56.82	206,240	64.33	1,079,900	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.23	35,600		10-12	12.39	13,200	12.08	175,800	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	20-25	22.54	8,120		20-25	23.28	8,560	22.59	51,615	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.59	17,200		40-45	44.03	16,040	44.06	110,330	

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG)* TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG		AVG	
	03/29	03/28	03/27	03/26	WTS	03/27	03/26	03/22
ALA	2,678	3,864	3,722	3,991	5.14	5.15	3,765	4.96
ARK	4,931	5,278	5,128	5,170	4.90	4.99	5,044	4.89
DELMARVA	1,822	2,197	2,251	2,083	5.18	5.13	1,963	5.20
KY-LA-TN	1,819	1,993	2,023	1,921	4.65	4.67	1,994	4.62
MISS	2,496	2,675	2,731	2,437	5.23	5.22	2,641	5.33
NC	1,553	2,628	2,313	2,428	6.10	6.08	2,382	5.98
TEXAS	2,384	2,438	2,401	2,199	5.00	4.98	2,420	5.03
TOTAL	17,683	21,073	20,569	20,229	5.14	5.16	20,209	5.11
MON-FRI101,630 (A)							103,169(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 29-Mar 02 and 30-Mar-02 is estimated to be 26,456,000 down 12.76 percent from a week ago and down 13.0 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,326,000; last year 30,396,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 30-Mar-02 is estimated to be 144,708,000 head down 4.6 percent from a week ago, and down 3.7 percent from a year ago

(Last week 151,624,000 Last year 150,228,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	86-88
ROASTERS 4# & UP	85-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	75
DUCKS	139
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 93-94
	DRY PACK 95-102
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 104-113
	DRY PACK 113
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 94-98
	DRY PACK
DUCKS	152-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending March 16, 2002.

(Preliminary),	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
-----THOUSANDS-----			
Head	26,705	29,710	47,559
Avg Weight	3.82	4.79	6.15
% of total /1	26%	29%	46%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	36,452	23,580	46,874
Avg Weight	3.84	4.79	6.13
% of total /1	34%	22%	44%
Same week, yr ago /2	29,392	27,981	40,701
Avg Weight	3.75	4.82	6.08
% of total /1	30%	29%	42%
To date/2002	350,349	260,657	514,458
To date/2001	350,765	285,437	474,115

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 23-Mar-2002 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	151,624 (A)	1,812	1,360	3,172	545
AVG WT	5.13	3.37	7.80	5.27	6.72
LAST WEEK	153,229	1,636	1,363	2,999	522
SAME WK YR AGO	150,141	1,953	1,396	3,349	506
AVG WT	5.06	3.30	7.85	5.19	7.22
TO-DATE/2002	1,830,776	21,342	15,508	36,850	5,392
TO-DATE/2001	1,794,462	22,281	15,366	37,647	5,838

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: MAR 26, 2002
PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL POULTRY

	RANGE	RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.50-1.62	
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.50-1.64	
Red Fowl 4-4.5 LBS	.40- .54	Rabbits 4-6 LBS 1.10-1.62
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.38- .82	Rabbits 7-11 LBS 1.10-1.34
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.60-1.10	Bunnies 2.00-4.00ea
Crossbred Roosters 4-6 LBS	.70- .94	Guinea Pigs 2.00-6.00ea
Crossbred Roosters 7-11 LBS	.60- .96	Goats 35.00-65.00ea
Guinea Fowl	1.15-1.85	kid Goats 12.00-35.00ea
Banty Roosters	3.00-6.00ea	Doves 6.00- 8.50ea
Banty Hens	2.00-3.50ea	Pullets 4-6 LBS .70- .94
Silkie	1.75-2.50ea	
Pigeons	3.00-3.85ea	
White Pigeons	4.00-5.10ea	

Total Coops Sold 788

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY for THE WEEK OF 25-MAR-2002

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND MOSTLY	137	143

MIDWEST MOSTLY	122-126	123-127
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ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	60-65	60-63
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65-85	70-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand was moderate to instances good due in part to the upcoming Easter holiday. Slaughter schedules full-time to reduced this week for the holiday. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$.35-.50, livers at \$.75-1.70, and feet at \$.80-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 25-MAR-2002.

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS MOSTLY	116-124	125

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
FEBRUARY 16	159.9	155.9	103	5.03
23	157.9	157.7	100	5.15
MARCH 2	156.8	158.1	99	5.10
9	157.0	157.7	100	5.21
16	155.1	155.6	100	5.00
23	153.5	154.3	99	5.13
YEAR TO DATE	1853.1	1859.4	100	
MARCH 30		155.9		
APRIL 6		157.9		

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	03/30/02	03/23/02	% CHG	03/31/01	% CHG
Broilers	144,708	151,624*	-05	150,228*	-04
Cattle	620	637	-03	642*	-03
Hogs	1,872	1,895	-01	1,863*	0

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majority prices were unchanged to slightly lower on both light and heavy cannery when compared to a week earlier. Demand ranged light to good. Supplies increased in availability but still cleared satisfactorily. The undertone was generally steady.

CENTS/POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, W/O FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS

(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)

23-24 MAJORITY

CENTS/POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS

(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)

25-28 MAJORITY 25

HEAVY CANNER HENS

(WITHOUT NECKS)

31-38 MAJORITY 31-32

HEAVY CANNER HENS

(WITHOUT NECKS)

32-38 MAJORITY 33-34

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was fair. Offerings were at least adequate for trade needs. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal processing schedules as some locations will be down Monday. Sales of finished product was clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent leghorn hens. Finished sales were fair. Current schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was generally steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices unchanged. Offerings usually adequate to fully adequate for the moderate to instances good demand. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

LIVE TYPE HENS

CENTS PER LB., DAY OF NEGOTIATION, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS

LIGHT

RANGE

MAJORITY

Eastern Light	0-0	(1)
Eastern Light	0-0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0	(2)
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	
(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT		

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate for about adequate to fully adequate offerings. Processing schedules for current week were in a range of normal to less than normal. Interest for finished product was clearing the slightly increased availability of supplies. The undertone was steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Negotiations were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate for sufficient offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were moderate. Schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plants schedules light to moderate Offerings after Easter ample.

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